(c) The scrap generated is screened and segregated in different categories like melting scrap, re-rolling scrap etc. It is then evaluated by Survey Committee and their recommendation are approved by Competent Authority before it is declared as scrap for disposal. The sale of scrap is arranged through Public Auction/Advertised Tender. The schedule dates for scrap are given wide publicity in the newspapers. Any prospective bidder can participate.

(d) The scrap disposal on Indian Railway is done mainly through public auction. For some items like turning & boring etc., disposal was made through advertised tender. The number of parties participated in the tenders varied from 2 to 18.

(e) and (f) In last year's Budget, it was decided to explore the possibilities of in-house utilization of scrap by recycling it, instead of selling it to outside parties subject to detailed examination of the logistics, cost benefits analysis etc. A high level committee was constituted in this regard. Committee has submitted its report, which is under examination. Meanwhile, a Wheel Plant has been approved at Chhapra, which will use scrap as one of the raw materials.

Expansion promotion and upgradation of railway tourism

4004. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans for expansion, promotion and upgradation of railway tourism in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of such plan with the total allocation of resources in the Railway Budget; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The Railways has taken various steps for

promoting tourism in the country. This include running of Bharat Darshan special tourist train catering to the common people to visit places of tourism importance at affordable cost. This train covers various parts of the country including Uttar pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Gujarat, Orissa etc. There is no separate fund allocation for this train. The Indian Railways also runs a steam train, the Fairy Queen Express in the State of Rajasthan and a luxury tourist train, the Palace on Wheels, which covers the States of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Elevation of UC Banerjee Committee

4005. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Justice UC Banerjee Committee probing the Godhra Train incident is proposed to be elevated to a full fledged Commission under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Unmanned railway crossing

4006. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unmanned railway crossings, State-wise;

(b) the number of accidents occurred on these unmanned railway crossings and the number of persons/children who lost their lives in such accidents during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the policy of Governments to man these unmanned railway crossings; and